

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-10

EB-07 SAJ-01 SS-15 OMB-01 /086 W

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P R 211744Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5843

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE

CINC USNAVEUR LONDON

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01108

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL, GW, MARR, MORG, MILI, NATO

SUBJECT: THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY'S SECURITY

"WHITE PAPER" 1975-76

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BEGIN SUMMARY: ON JANUARY 20 THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

ISSUED ITS DEFENSE "WHITE PAPER" 1975-76. LIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, THIS "WHITE PAPER" PROVIDES A TWO-YEAR ASSESSMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC'S SECURITY POLICY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUNDESWEHR. THE FRG HAS PUBLISHED A USEFUL DESCRIPTION OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE "WHITE PAPER" WHICH IS TRANSMITTED BELOW. A MORE COMPLETE SUMMARY OF THE "WHITE PAPER" IS BEING TRANSMITTED TO ALL ACTION AND INFO ADDRESSEES BY AIRGRAM. THE COMPLETE "WHITE PAPER" WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND USNATO WHEN ADDITIONAL COPIES HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN TEXT: THE "WHITE PAPER 1975-76 ON THE SECURITY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES" HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE FEDERAL CABINET ON 3 DECEMBER 1975 AND SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES AND TO THE PUBLIC. THE "WHITE PAPER" IS A JOINT PRODUCT OF ALL SERVICE STAFFS AND DIVISIONS IN THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE; IT HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE FEDERAL MINISTRIES REPRESENTED IN THE FEDERAL SECURITY COUNCIL. IT CONTAINS PROGRAMMATIC STATEMENTS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON THE SECURITY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. IN ADDITION, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GIVES AN ACCOUNT OF THE CAPABILITIES OF THE ARMED FORCES AND OF THEIR ONWARD DEVELOPMENT.

2. UNLIKE ITS PREDECESSORS, THIS "WHITE PAPER" IS NOT IN THE NATURE OF A REFERENCE WORK. IT CONFINES ITSELF TO SOME SUBJECTS OF KEY INTEREST. IN THE FIRST PART HEADED "SECURITY IN A WORLD OF CHANGE" THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LAYS DOWN ITS SECURITY AND DEFENSE POLICIES, BASED ON A DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. THE CLOSE INTERDEPENDENCE OF ECONOMIC STABILITY AND MILITARY SECURITY IS INCLUDED IN THE CONSIDERATIONS. THE SECOND PART CAPTIONED "THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUNDESWEHR" GIVES A DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMED FORCES AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SECURITY POLICY, AND OF THE SERVICEMEN IN THEIR VOCATIONAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT.

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3. AS REGARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUNDESWEHR, HELMUT SCHMIDT, THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR, STATES THAT "THE MANPOWER COMPOSITION, THE EQUIPMENT, AND THE STANDARD OF TRAINING OF THE BUNDESWEHR ARE BETTER THAN EVER."

4. GEORG LEBER, FEDERAL MINISTER OF DEFENSE: "FOR

TWENTY YEARS NOW THE BUNDESWEHR HAS BEEN A RELIABLE
INSTITUTION OF OUR DEMOCRATIC STATE. IT ENJOYS THE
CONFIDENCE OF THE CITIZENRY."

5. ON THE POLICIES OF SECURITY AND DETENTE, THE "WHITE

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5844

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC

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CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

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CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE

CINC USNAVEUR LONDON

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PAPER" STATES: "BESIDES TAKING MILITARY PRECAUTIONS TO SAFEGUARD THE SECURITY OF OUR COUNTRY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL RESOLUTELY CONTINUE TO EXPLOIT EVERY UNCLASSIFIED

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PROMISING CHANCE OF DETENTE IN ORDER TO GAIN GREATER SECURITY."

"HOWEVER, THE DIFFERING TAKE-OFF POINTS AND IDEOLOGICAL DESIGNS OF WEST AND EAST MARK THE EXTENT TO WHICH DETENTE IS POSSIBLE. THE IDEOLOGICAL DISPUTE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST CONTINUES UNABATED."

"THE SECURITY SITUATION AND DISCERNIBLE TENDENCIES CONFIRM THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE ALLIANCE, AND, WITH IT, THE ABILITY TO DETER AGGRESSION AND DEFEND OURSELVES."

"A STRONG DEFENSE CAPABILITY IS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE FOUNDATION FROM WHICH STEPS OF DETENTE APPEAR TO BE MOST PROMISING. WITHOUT ADEQUATE PROVISIONS TO SAFEGUARD OUR EXTERNAL SECURITY THERE CAN BE NO DETENTE."

6. ON SOVIET MILITARY DOCTRINE: "THE SALIENT FEATURE OF MILITARY STRATEGIC THOUGHT IN THE SOVIET COMMAND IS THE CONVICTION THAT, IN ANY MILITARY CONFLICT WITH NATO, STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE MUST BE THE BASIS OF SOVIET OPERATIONS...THIS EXPLAINS WHY THE WARSAW PACT IS BOOSTING ITS STRIKING POWER SO THAT STRONG, OPERATIONALLY READY FORCES CAN EXPLOIT THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE, AND, BY MEANS OF AN OPERATIONAL BREAKTHROUGH, CAN QUICKLY CREATE SITUATIONS IN WHICH THE INITIAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY THE DEFENDER WOULD OCCUR AT TOO LATE A STAGE."

7. WITH REGARD TO NATO'S STRATEGY THE "WHITE PAPER" CONCLUDES THAT THE ALLIANCE MUST ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF FORWARD DEFENSE INVOLVING STRONG CONVENTIONAL FORCES. "ON THE OTHER HAND, HOWEVER," THE WHITE PAPER CONTINUES, "THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE CANNOT WAIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IF ONLY BECAUSE IT IS NOT ON A PAR CONVENTIONALLY WITH THE WARSAW PACT. WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS THERE WOULD BE NO BALANCE."

8. ON THE DIFFICULTIES WITHIN THE ALLIANCE: "THE SOVEREIGN FREEDOM OF DECISION OF THE PARTIES TO THE

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ALLIANCE IS A BOON THAT IS PROTECTED BY NATO, BUT ALSO A WEAK POINT WITH WHICH THE ALLIANCE REPEATEDLY HAS TO COPE. EVEN IN THE PRESENT DIFFICULT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION, NATO HAS POSSIBILITIES OF MAINTAINING THE NECESSARY BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN WEST AND EAST."

9. AS TO THE CONDITIONS PREVAILING WITHIN THE BUNDESWEHR THE "WHITE PAPER" STATES THAT, FOLLOWING A GREAT DEAL OF FREQUENTLY DISTORTED DISCUSSION, THE CONCEPT OF "INNERE FUEHRUNG" (LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC EDUCATION) HAS WON THROUGH AND PROVED SATISFACTORY AS THE DAILY AXIOMATIC PRACTICE OF LEADERSHIP IN THE FORCES. THE INNER STRUCTURE OF THE FORCES IS IN GOOD CONDITION, THE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THEY WORK IS OBJECTIVE AND HUMAN. THE BUNDESWEHR IS A DISCIPLINED FORCE. YOUNG MEN'S ATTITUDE HAS BECOME MORE POSITIVE."

10. THE "WHITE PAPER" DRAWS SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN THE ARMED FORCES, STATING THAT "THE SERVICEMAN SHOULD BE CHALLENGED AND ADVANCED: CHALLENGED SO THAT THE ARMED FORCES ARE OPERATIONALLY READY, AND ADVANCED SO THAT HIS ACHIEVEMENTS ARE RECOGNIZED AND THAT HE HIMSELF, THE BUNDESWEHR, AND OUR NATIONAL ECONOMY, DERIVE BENEFIT FROM HIS CAPABILITIES." END TEXT.
HILLENBRAND

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